



CHRISTMAS JOY

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHURCH LEADERS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Older Children's (5th -8th Grade) Activity Sheet

This activity can be used on its own, or as a part of a larger reflection about how we respond to the gift of Emmanuel, God-with-us, as we work to build God's neighborhood here.

God “moved into the neighborhood” to show us what love looks like. God desires for our response to this great gift not to be just empty words and practices, but to join God in building God's neighborhood in this world — by showing the world God's great love.

What does it truly look like for God to move into the neighborhood?

Use the city block template to design your own block of a city or town with examples of what God's neighborhood would look like if we all responded to God's gift of Jesus Christ with acts of peace, justice, and love in our communities.

What does your vision of God's neighborhood look like? Use these questions as you think of what you would want to include on your city block.

In God's neighborhood:

- Do people in the neighborhood have enough? How do they have what they need?
- How do people connect in God's neighborhood?
- How do people help one another?
- How is the earth respected and taken care of?
- How do the sick and the lonely and the poor receive what they need?
- What actions would take place in God's neighborhood that proclaim God's love?

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